## The International Conference on Conservation and Sustainable Development of Coastal Wetland 沿海濕地保育與可持續發展國際會議

## Forum on Conservation and Management of Coastal Wetland: Opportunities, Challenges and Way Forward 沿海濕地保育與管理: 機遇、挑戰及前路 論壇

Coastal wetlands refer to wetlands in coastal watersheds, including salt marshes, freshwater marshes, seagrass beds, mangrove swamps and forested swamps. They provide clean drinking water, flood protection and sustainable fisheries. They are also the habitats for wildlife and biodiversity, and sites for sequestration and storage of blue carbon, very important in combating climate changes and global warming. However, with rapid development, urbanization and industrialization, as well as problems of erosion, subsidence, sea-level rise and drainage, the loss of coastal wetlands has become a global issue. How to protect and conserve coastal wetlands in rapidly developed cities is an urgent and important question to be answered. In China, this is an even more critical issue since i) we are in quick economic growth and development over the past three decades, especially in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area (GBA); and ii) many of the human activities in China are along the coastal line. Striking the balance between conservation and development of coastal wetlands, particularly mangrove swamps which are the dominant wetlands along tropical and subtropical coastlines, is most challenging ever.

This Forum, part of the program of the *International Conference on Conservation and Sustainable Development of Coastal Wetland*, is timely and meaningful. The Forum aims to seek insights and expert views from different stakeholders, such as researchers / scientists / academics, government officials, green groups, etc. on the opportunities, challenges and solutions to conserve and proper manage of coastal wetlands.

## Main themes of the Forum:

- 1. Scientific research: roles of academics, research funding and collaboration
- 2. From research scientific findings to management: policy making, management plan and strategy
- 3. Roles of green groups, publics and government officials in conservation of coastal wetlands

Moderator:

Prof Nora Tam Fung-yee, Co-Chairperson of International Advisory Committee of the Conference; Chair Professor of Environmental Science and Conservation, Hong Kong Metropolitan University

譚鳳儀教授,會議國際顧問委員會聯席主席;環境科學及生態保育講座教授

Panel members:

Prof WONG Yuk-shan, Chairman, Research Grants Council of Hong Kong 当工业教授,委选研究实明已主席

黄玉山教授,香港研究資助局 主席

Prof Joe LEE, Professor and Director, Simon F S Li Marine Science Laboratory, School of Life Sciences; Director, Institute of Environment, Energy and Sustainability, Chinese University of Hong Kong, China

李成業教授,中文大學 李福善海洋科學研究中心 主任; 環境、能源及可持續發展研究 所 所長

Prof LIN Guanghui, Professor, Tsinghua University; Hainan International Blue Carbon Research Center

林光輝教授,清華大學;海南國際藍碳研究中心

Dr. YANG Qiong, Research Director, The Bureau of Guangdong Neilingding Futian National Nature Reserve

楊琼博士,廣東內伶仃福田國家級自然保護區管理局科研室主任

Dr. Patrick YEUNG, Senior Programme Director, Mangrove Foundation 楊松穎博士, 紅樹林基金會 高級項目總監

## Rundown of Banquet cum Panel Discussion

Grand Ballroom 1, L6, Royal Plaza Hotel, 193 Prince Edward Road West, Kowloon, Hong Kong 20 April, 2023

Time	Activity
18:30 - 19:00	Registration
19:00 – 20:00	Forum on Conservation and Management of Coastal Wetland: Opportunities, Challenges and Way Forward 沿海濕地保育與管理: 機遇、挑戰及前路 論壇 <i>Medium: biliteracy and trilingualism (兩文三語)</i>
20:00 - 22:00	Banquet

\* In the forum, guests from the floor will also be invited to express their views after panel members' sharing.